Subject: bits into bytes
Posted by wlandsman on Wed, 01 Aug 2012 22:49:21 GMT
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I have to write an array of "on-off" states in which the values are stored as bits.   So if I have

x = [1b,0b,1b,1b,1b,0b,1b,1b]

i want to convert this to a single byte value.   (This is the inverse of David Fanning's bitget.pro function.)
One way to to do this is

IDL> yy = [128b,64b,32b,16b,8b,4b,2b,1b]
IDL> print,byte(total(yy*x))
187b

But there must be a way to do this using masking rather than multiplication. I just can't figure it out right now.   (The conversion will be done for millions of bits).   Thanks, --Wayne